

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 1, line 15, with the following amended paragraph.

The present application ~~is based on~~ claims the benefit of provisional patent application serial number 60/178,910, filed January 26, 2000, by Xinhui Niu and Nickhil Harshavardhan Jakatdar, entitled Cached Coupled Wave Method for Diffraction Grating Profiled Analysis.